

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A method of reducing to one dimension the inherently multi-dimensional space of the error probabilities of a pattern classification system, comprising:
  - an analysis of the class-specific probability distributions; and
  - a mapping of the multi-dimensional space (a vector) to one dimension (a scalar).
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the one dimensional space is modified, for example, to be a scale linear in probability.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the one dimensional space is based on likelihood in the original multi-dimensional space of error probabilities.
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the one dimensional space is based on the ratio of probabilities of an error from the original multi-dimensional space of error probabilities.